

BUREAU OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES (BOLI)  
COMMISSIONER BRAD AVAKIAN

**Commissioner's Message – November 11, 2011**  
*A Special Veterans Day Message from the Labor Commissioner*

Dear Friends:

Veterans Day is a special opportunity to recognize the service of not only heroes long departed, but also the active and recently returned veterans of our uniformed services, whose service brings with it special challenges. We should remember, each Veterans Day, that there are a great many Americans who have worn, and still wear, our country's uniform—and in support of whom there is still much work to be done. Our veterans and their families have made a special kind of contribution to our great country.

Oregon's veterans will be honored at a host of events across the state today and, if you're able to, I hope you'll take the opportunity to participate in one or more of them. The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs has [an excellent list of events](#) in communities all over Oregon to help you find a convenient one. Your work schedule permitting, there are a lot of fun, family-friendly options from which to choose.

And whether you're able to attend a Veterans Day celebration or not, consider taking the extra moment today, with even more enthusiasm than on other days of the year, to thank our veterans for their service. We can't grant a holiday to every veteran in every workplace across the state, but each of us can take a few moments to recognize our own co-workers and, at least in that simple, direct and powerful way, show them the gratitude that this day is intended to convey.

Sincerely,



Brad Avakian  
Oregon Labor Commissioner

PS: Happy slightly belated birthday to the United States Marine Corps, celebrating an illustrious 236<sup>th</sup> just yesterday, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

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